कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम पाल): (क) भारत में टर्मिनेटर बीज के कानूनी रूप से प्रवेश की अनुमति नहीं है।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

विदेशी पौधों के हानिकारक प्रभाव

338. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने अपने अनुसंधान केन्द्रों के माध्यम से विदेशी पौधों, यथा कांग्रेस ग्रास (पार्थिनियम हिस्ट्रोफारस), लेन्टाना, यूक्लिपटस, विलायती बबूल (प्रोसोपिस) आदि के कुप्रभावों को जानने के लिए कोई अध्ययन करवाया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार इन हानिकारक विदेशी पेड़-पौधों के कुप्रभावों को रोकने के लिए क्या प्रयास कर रही है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम पाल): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद और इसके संस्थान कांग्रेस ग्रास, लेन्टाना, यूक्लिपटस और एकेशिया परीक्षणों का कार्य अपने हाथ में लेते रहे हैं।

कांग्रेस ग्रास (पार्थिनियम हिस्ट्रोफोरस) पूरे देश में बंजर भूमि व खाली पड़े खेतों के लिए खतरा बन चुकी है। यह घास उन फसलों में भी उग आती है जिनके पौधे दूर-दूर रोपे गए होते हैं। कांग्रेस घास की रोकथाम के लिए उपयुक्त संवर्धनात्मक, रासायनिक और जैविक उपायों का मानकीकरण किया गया है। फिर भी, इसके कारगर नियंत्रण के लिए सामुदायिक रूप से प्रयास करने की जरूरत है।

लेन्टाना एक विदेशी सजावटी झाड़ी है और हानिकारक खरपतवार है। इससे पर्वतीय क्षेत्र संक्रमित हो गए हैं। इसके कारगर नियंत्रण के लिए रासायनिक एवं जैविक नियंत्रण उपाय अधिक आशाजनक सिद्ध हुए हैं।

यूक्लिपटस कागज उद्योग के लिए उपयोगी पौधा है जिसे कुछ निश्चित परिस्थितियों में कृषि फसलों के साथ संयुक्त रूप से उगाया जाना चाहिए।

प्रॉस्पोसिस जूलीफ्लोरा, (विलायती बबूल) ईंधन की लकड़ी के रूप में इस्तेमाल किया जाता है। तथापि, केन्द्रीय मरुक्षेत्र अनुसंधान संस्थान (काजरी), जोधपुर में चल रहे काम से ऐसी संभावना का पता चलता है कि इस प्रजाति को कांटा रहित बनाकर चारे के पेड़ के रूप में इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है।

Floor price for Copra

339. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government declared the floor price for copra and coconut for the year 1999;

(b) what are the price rates; and

(c) whether Government have made any arrangement to purchase coconut from the peasant at the floor price rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has declared the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Fair Average Quality for Milling and Ball Copra at Rs. 3100 per quintal and Rs. 3325 per quintal respectively for the 1999 season. The MSPs declared by the Government for both the varieties of copra during the current season are higher by Rs. 200 per quintal than the MSPs fixed during the previous season.

(c) The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) has been nominated as central nodal agency for procurement of Copra at the MSPs declared by the Government.

Central assistance for cashew replanting in Kerala

340. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted a project for replanting and productivity improvement of cashew in Kerala seeking financial assistance from the Centre for the implementation of the same; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) During November, 1997 the Government of Kerala submitted a project proposal seeking Central Assistance of Rs. 107.10

crores for Replanting and Productivity Improvement of Cashew in Kerala.

The project included the components of area expansion, replanting and rejuvenation of old and senile orchards, production and distribution of hybrid varieties of cashew clones, establishment of model gardens, better management of young plantations, training and propaganda, to be implemented in a period of five years during the Ninth Five year Plan. Most of the components included in the project proposal submitted by the Government of Kerala like area expansion, replanting/ rejuvenation, production and distribution of hybrid varieties through regional nurseries, establishment of model clonal garden and training of farmers are being covered under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Integrated Development of Cashew". A sum of Rs. 119.9 lakhs was released to the Government of Kerala during 1997-98. During 1998-99 an allocation of Rs. 92.02 lakhs has been provided for Kerala State. The other components are not covered under the scheme.

Irrigated and Non-Irrigated land

341. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a big gap in the area of irrigated and non-irrigated land and in its average yield; and

(b) if so, what was the area of irrigated and non-irrigated land in the country in the year 1998-99 togetherwith its respective production capacity and the percentage of the gap assessed in the yield of two types of land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are gaps in the area of irrigated and unirrigated land as also in their average yield. According to the latest land use statistics for 1995-96, the gross irrigated area and gross unirrigated area in the country was 71.51 million hectares and 115.05 million hectares respectively. However, the official estimates of yield rates of irrigated and non-irrigated land are not systematically available in respect of all the states/crops so as to derive these estiamtes at all India level.

Generation of Nuclear power

342. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review of the generation of nuclear power during Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the target fixed for that plan period and the actual achievement made thereon;

(c) the projection made for nuclear power generation in Ninth Plan; and

(d) the details of various steps proposed to be taken to increase nuclear power generation in that plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The target for power generation during the 8th five year plan (1992—97) from operating nuclear power plants was set at 37,070 MUs against which the actual generation achieved was 34,844 MUs.

(c) The updated target of nuclear pow er generation during the Ninth Plan is estimated as 51854 MUs.

(d) To increase nuclear power generation during 9th five year plan, efforts are made to: (i) strengthen monitoring and preventive & predictive maintenance, (ii) improve outage management, (iii) carry-out effective coordination with Regional Electricity Boards to improve frequency control for the grid, (iv) exchange technical information & experience through international bodies, (v) intensive training for maintenance and operating staff particularly with the use of simulators etc. Apart from the above a number of steps such as (i) timely corrective actions, (ii) periodical monitoring of projects using